

2008

CITY OF
OAKWOOD

ANNUAL REPORT



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ABOUT OUR CENTENNIAL...

In 2003 the city began initial planning for the 2008 Centennial Celebration. In November, 2005, Mayor Judy Cook announced that Oakwood residents Dick Good and Madeline Iseli would serve as committee co-chairs. Under the leadership of Mayor Cook, Dick Good and Madeline Iseli, the committee grew to include over 250 Oakwood citizens who together planned and conducted the following five major Centennial events:

- Centennial Grand Opening on “That Centennial Day in May”
- Excellence in Learning
- Hike to Houk
- Oakwood Retrospective
- Centennial Closing Event and Community Ice Cream Social

Centennial highlights included the first time ever community parade down Far Hills Avenue. The parade began in the Far Hills Business District and concluded at Dellwood Avenue. There were about 70 parade entries. Oakwood resident and Rotarian Ted O’Connor planned and oversaw the grand event. Two other highlights were the first ever “Oakwood’s Got Talent” talent show and The United States Air Force Band of Flight concert at Mack Hummon Stadium. Those events were planned and executed under the leadership of Co-Chairs Sally McBride Solarek and Becky Butler, with extensive assistance from Leisure Services Director Carol Collins and a committee of dedicated citizen volunteers. The Centennial celebration also included creation of two historical treasures... see last page in this report.



Phone Numbers

CITY PHONE NUMBERS

ADMINISTRATION298-0600
 City Manager
 Deputy City Manager
 Clerk of Council

POLICE, FIRE & MEDICAL EMERGENCY911
 NON-EMERGENCY298-2122

PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT298-2122
 Public Safety Director, Police and Fire Services,
 Emergency Medical Services, Public Safety Records
 Public Safety Info Line (Recording)293-INFO

FINANCE DEPARTMENT298-0402
 Finance Director, Assessments,
 Vital Statistics, Refuse Billing
 Water & Sewer Metering/Billing298-0400
 Income Tax.....298-0531

PUBLIC HEALTH298-0600

INSPECTIONAL SERVICES297-2920
 City Inspector, Permits, Zoning,
 Pre-Sale Housing Inspections,
 Property Maintenance Issues

LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT298-0775
 Leisure Services Director
 Health Center & Teen Center
 Horticulturist/Smith Gardens
 Parks & Recreation Program
 William E. Gardner Pool.....297-2933
 Leisure Line (Recordings)297-2935

MUNICIPAL COURT293-3058
 Clerk of Courts, Small Claims Court
 and Traffic Violations

PERSONNEL/HUMAN RESOURCES298-0411

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT298-0777
 Public Works Director
 City Engineer, Bulk Pick-ups
 Street, Alley, Water and Sewer Maintenance
 Waste Collection (Refuse and Recycling)
 Water Treatment Plant Information

OAKWOOD SCHOOLS
 Board of Education297-5332
 Oakwood High School297-5325
 Oakwood Junior High School297-5328
 Edwin Smith Elementary School297-5335
 Harman Elementary School297-5338
 Lange School (Kindergarten)299-8730

CITY WEBSITE
www.mvcc.net/oakwood

OTHER NUMBERS

AT&T1-866-505-1765
 Dayton Power & Light331-3900
 Hills & Dales Shelter Rental Info275-7275
 Kettering Inspections Department296-2441
 Montgomery County Property
 Tax Information.....225-4326
 RTA (Route & Schedule Information)226-1144
 Time Warner Cable294-6400
 Vectren1-800-909-7668
 Wright Brothers Post Office1-800-275-8777
 Wright Memorial Public Library294-7171



Oakwood City Council

Oakwood is served by a council/manager form of government. Oakwood's City Council is comprised of five members who are elected on a non-partisan basis for four-year overlapping terms. The mayor and vice mayor are selected by their fellow council members for two-year terms.

City Council is the policy-making body of the community. Council appoints a full-time professional city manager to implement city policies, enforce ordinances and direct delivery of citizen services. The city manager serves as chief administrative and operating officer of the city.

City Council normally meets in formal public session on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the city building, 30 Park Avenue. These formal meetings are broadcast live on the local cable Government Access channel, (Channel 6). The meetings are re-broadcast several times during the week or two afterwards (check www.mvcc.net for dates and times). The meetings are also viewable through the city website at www.mvcc.net/oakwood.

Council also meets in work session typically once each month. These work sessions are also held at the city building and normally begin at 5 p.m. on the third Monday of each month. During summer months, council may meet only once per month. Meetings are open to the public and

attendance is encouraged. Call 298-0600 to receive a schedule of upcoming meetings.

To help in performing city business, Oakwood City Council relies on the assistance of many Oakwood citizens through service on city committees. The current list of council-appointed committees is as follows:

- Board of Health
- Board of Zoning Appeals
- Budget Review Committee
- Comprehensive Planning Committee
- Environmental Committee
- Human Relations Commission
- ADA Compliance Committee
- Personnel Appeals Board
- Planning Commission
- Property Maintenance Board
- Public Facilities Task Force
- Tax/Sewer/Water/Assembly Appeals
- Martin Luther King Breakfast Committee

In total, the current slate of committees provides opportunities for over 150 residents to be involved in the business of providing local public services. Citizens interested in serving on a committee should contact Clerk of Council Cathy Gibson at 298-0600 or should send an e-mail to Mayor Judy Cook at cook@oakwood.oh.us or City Manager Norbert Klopsch at klopsch@oakwood.oh.us



Judy Cook
Mayor



Carlo McGinnis
Vice Mayor



Bill Duncan
Council Member



Stanley Castleman
Council Member



Steve Byington
Council Member



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

This detailed annual report, covering all aspects of our city as it exists today, is particularly interesting when viewed in context of our centennial year. In 2008 we celebrated 100 years of existence as an identified, independent community. We have gone from a sparsely populated area to a fully developed city and have traveled through a myriad of changes that have challenged city management. As we begin our second 100 years, evidence of success and continuing superior management is clearly revealed in this detailed image of Oakwood.

Our centennial year was the focus for 2008. Together we celebrated the many outstanding attributes of our community. It was a year of volunteer effort that showcased the outstanding talent and generosity of our citizens. The legacy of our new Centennial Park at Houk Stream continues as a reminder of this benchmark celebration. As we paused to reflect on our rich heritage, we recall the principles that continue to guide us in maintaining our attractive, appealing and vibrant city.

2008 is remembered for other notable events. We celebrated the dedication of the beautiful Beth Abraham Synagogue at Sugar Camp and welcomed its congregation to our community. Staff maintained their oversight role in the continued development of Sugar Camp and the residential Pointe Oakwood. Orchardly Park renovation was completed in June. This park is designed to welcome all children, including those with disabilities, to play along with their peers. We welcomed Finance Director Cindy Stafford to the administrative staff. The City Manager and council representatives traveled to San Antonio as part of a regional project regarding the BRAC relocations to Wright Patterson AFB. A large contingent from the Miami Valley showcased our region in a day-long event organized and directed by the Dayton Development Coalition. We seek to capitalize on the BRAC decisions to bring new residents and economic growth to our city and region.

The unexpected arrival of wind storm Ike will mark 2008 as a year of incredible challenge. The havoc brought by this tremendous storm was catastrophic. Most citizens had never endured the severity or length of the power outage that ensued. With no time to prepare, households were left to cope with the resulting difficulties. Neighbor to neighbor support systems grew up overnight and alleviated much distress. The intensity and persistence of staff response provided the quickest and most encompassing relief possible. Even before the nearly two week long power outage was over, the massive clean up and restoration began. In record setting time, city crews efficiently and effectively restored the city back to normal operations. The challenge of Ike was a true testimony to the strength and capability of city staff.

Information in this annual report tells in detail how public dollars are used to provide the services and environment that makes Oakwood a highly prized residential city. It also reveals the knowledge, skills and capacity of our outstanding staff that are required to deliver these benefits on a daily basis. All of city council applauds the excellent performance of city staff under the leadership of City Manager Norbert Klopsch. We appreciate the challenges they face and recommend this report to you as a way to better understand the complexity of maintaining the standards of excellence we enjoy in Oakwood.

Sincerely,

Judy Cook
Mayor



www.mvcc.net/oakwood ~ 30 Park Avenue ~ Dayton, OH



Message from the City Manager

Dear Fellow Citizens:

It is my pleasure to present the city's 2008 Annual Report. The report includes an introduction of each operating department followed by a series of questions and answers. The data and narrative should give you a good understanding of the services provided by your city staff. I hope you find this report informative and useful.

Producing the annual report gives us the opportunity to reflect on the past year and to present some thoughts on current issues and projects. We are once again publishing this report in newsprint form and distributing it as an insert in the Oakwood Register. The newsprint format is an inexpensive way of preparing the report and we know that many Oakwood citizens look to the Register as a primary source of information about the city.

2008 was another good year for Oakwood. Here are some highlights:

•**Centennial:** We conducted many special community events in celebration of our city's 100th year.

•**Sugar Camp Development:** Major progress was made at the professional office complex. We now have about 150 people working there. This is providing significant revenue to our city.

•**Pointe Oakwood:** An enormous amount of site preparation work was completed. The first residential housing units will be constructed this spring/summer. (See pages 14 and 15 for additional information on Sugar Camp and Pointe Oakwood.)

•**Orchardly Park:** We totally rebuilt the playground area and restroom facility. The new play structures, including water park feature, have been very well received by our youngsters.

•**Centennial Park at Houk Stream:** We made some significant improvements to the natural area acquired in 2007. This includes building a bridge across the stream (this was a major project of the Oakwood Rotary Club, representing a \$40,000 gift to the city), making improvements to the dam and minor stream crossings, and removing a large amount of unwanted Honeysuckle and other invasive plants.

•**Orchard Drive Parking Lot:** We built a beautiful new parking lot in the heart of our Far Hills Business District. Our Far Hills District continues as a very successful shopping destination, even through these challenging economic times. The new parking lot is strategically located to provide a significant enhancement to the district.

•**Public Safety Dispatch Center:** We completed major work in renovating our dispatch center. The new center will be operational within a few weeks and will include the equipment and technology enhancements needed to provide the finest possible service to our citizens.

•**Athletic and Recreation Space Master Planning:** We started work on developing a master plan for our athletic and recreation spaces. It will evaluate our existing facilities and will provide a blueprint for future capital improvements.

One of my primary responsibilities is to serve as steward of our city finances. I address this responsibility each year with extensive assistance from our finance director. On March 31, 2008, our long-time director,



Norbert S. Klopsch



Message from the City Manager

Brad Beachdell, retired. Brad served the city of Oakwood with distinction for 20 years, 11 as income tax administrator and nine as finance director. In July, 2008, Cindy Stafford, CPA assumed duties as our new director. Cindy has been a wonderful addition to our primary staff.

The annual city budget is our principal financial document. When approved by City Council, it provides the formal authorization for all city spending. The budget document includes a broad range of information about our city and is available to all citizens in hard copy and on-line. You can find it on our city website at www.mvcc.net/oakwood under on-line resources.

Each year we develop the city budget with involvement of our citizen Budget Review Committee ("BRC"). The BRC consists of 34 Oakwood residents representing each of our 11 voting precincts. On December 2, 2008 the BRC recommended approval of the 2009 Budget and on December 8, City Council approved it.

Budget Highlights:

Property Tax Cut: The 2009 Budget reflects a decrease of \$340,000 in property taxes. This decrease is the result of city council's unanimous decision on August 4, 2008 to allow our 5.5 mill property tax issue to expire. The 5.5 mill issue was first approved by Oakwood voters in 1978 and had been renewed every five years since then. With the increase in property values since 1978, the 2008 effective rate of the 5.5 mill issue was 0.95. The decision to allow this issue to expire results in a tax cut for all Oakwood property owners. The decision to cut taxes was supported by many members of the BRC and was made because of our cash reserves. We currently have more cash reserves than expected because of large estate tax distributions received in 2007.

Reliance on Estate Tax: As has been the case for at least ten years, we rely on significant annual estate tax revenue to balance our budget. Estate

taxes are imposed and collected by our state and federal governments but a portion of those taxes are distributed to the local governments in which a person resides at their time of death. Our annual average estate tax over the past 11 years is \$2.7 million. However, not counting three very large and unprecedented estates tax receipts, our annual average is about \$1.2 million. Over the past few years we budgeted annually to receive \$1.0 million. In 2008 we received about \$1.3 million. Presently we need about \$2.4 million per year to pay for all of our expenses without using cash reserves.

Annual estate tax revenue varies dramatically from year to year. Because it is so unpredictable, it is best, from a budgeting policy standpoint, to avoid relying on this revenue to cover normal annual operating expenses. That said, with concurrence of the BRC, we have chosen to do it. We have done so because our fund balances have been at levels that could cover annual revenue shortfalls if and when they occur.

New Revenues from Sugar Camp Development:

Income Tax - In 2008 we began receiving some new income tax revenue from the Sugar Camp reuse project. The new revenues will continually increase as more professional offices are filled. When all the buildings are occupied we estimate new revenues to be approximately \$250,000 annually.

Real Estate Tax - When the Sugar Camp and Pointe Oakwood projects are completed, our total city-wide appraised residential property value will increase by about 9% and commercial property value by about 23%. This significant increase allows us to spread the total tax burden (including taxes for our schools, county, library, etc.) across a larger tax-paying base. Because we were able to pay the new public roadway costs with unexpected 2007 estate tax dollars, as opposed to borrowing money, our businesses and citizens will realize the financial benefit of the new development as it is built.



Message from the City Manager

Estate Tax – Because a portion of the state and federally collected estate taxes are distributed to the local governments in which a person resides at their time of death, providing much needed empty-nester housing in Oakwood is important for our city.

Public Infrastructure and Equipment:

Each year we continue to make significant investments in our public infrastructure and replace capital equipment as needed. With those investments, we are keeping up with our infrastructure needs and maintain the equipment to provide the comprehensive and high quality services that our citizens expect.

Water and Sewer Utilities:

Water Utility: We continue to operate our own water system and in 2008 produced and distributed 100% of the water used in our city. In previous years we needed to purchase some water from the city of Dayton during the dry summer periods to meet irrigation demands. Our Water Funds are financially stable and we presently have the 5th lowest water rates out of 67 jurisdictions throughout the Miami Valley area. We run a very efficient water system having not raised water rates since 1994.

Sewer Utility: We also continue to operate and maintain our own sanitary sewer system, but use the city of Dayton and Montgomery County for wastewater treatment. About 75% of the total cost of our sewer utility goes to Dayton and Montgomery County for wastewater treatment. That external expense in large part dictates the sewer rates we charge. Our sewer rates presently rank 38th lowest out of 63 jurisdictions.

In summary, our city finances are sound. We have the resources to continue providing the finest local government services.

Oakwood has a long history of being self-sufficient. In other words, we believe strongly in local self-government and the “Municipal Home Rule”

authority provided by the Ohio Constitution. Besides retaining our own Public Safety dispatch center and operating our own water and sewer utilities, we also continue to operate our own Local Health District. Over the past two years our Board of Health, led by Chairman Dr. Greg Ramey, Ph.D. and Health Commissioner/Medical Director Dr. Richard Garrison, MD, has spent considerable time overseeing the construction activities at Sugar Camp/Pointe Oakwood as these activities involved public health issues. The Oakwood Board of Health consists of five citizens appointed by City Council. In addition to Dr. Ramey, the Board includes Dr. Marvin Miller, MD, Dr. Gloria Goldman, Ph.D., RN, Paul Holcomb, R.Ph. and Dr. David Denka, DO. We are fortunate to have such an excellent group of volunteers overseeing public health issues in our city.

In closing, I thank you for taking the time to read this 2008 Annual Report. I think it is very important that our citizens have the opportunity to learn about our community and to understand what we do and how we do it. We have a wonderful city in which to live and work. Our excellent schools, beautiful homes, unmatched community character and ambiance, and neighborly environment are second to none. Although you can point to many features or attributes that make our city special, I believe that our most valuable resource is the fine citizens who have chosen Oakwood for the place to live, raise families and retire.

If you have any questions about this report or have any other issues that you wish to discuss with me, please do not hesitate to call (298-0600) or e-mail (klopsch@oakwood.oh.us).

Sincerely,

Norbert S. Klopsch
City Manager



Public Safety

The Oakwood Public Safety Department is one of only approximately 32 fully consolidated police and fire departments in the country. All of Oakwood's sworn officers are state certified in law enforcement, fire fighting and emergency medical services. The underlying strength of the department is premised on the philosophy that public safety service can be effectively provided by deploying officers trained in the basics of all three disciplines.

One significant advantage to consolidation is that Public Safety Officers (PSO's) on patrol can respond very quickly to a fire call and extinguish small fires or accurately evaluate the status of larger fires. Another distinct advantage is that the PSO's are trained

and equipped to respond to life-threatening emergencies and to take immediate action on any medical situation, even when they are working their police shift.

Oakwood's Public Safety Department is the second oldest consolidated department in the United States. Formed in 1927, the concept has been successful in providing our citizens with one of the most secure cities in Ohio and an extremely quick and knowledgeable response to any emergency.

The 39-member Public Safety Department is led by Chief Alex Bebris, Captain Dave Lantz and Captain Randy Baldrige.

Here are some key questions we are often asked about public safety matters.

CRIME



What are our crime statistics?

Our total reported crime over the past few years has not fluctuated much. That said, our '08 total was the lowest in the past five years.

OFFENSE	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Part 1 crimes	195	165	202	223	148
Other major crimes	109	106	87	67	119
Total	304	271	289	290	267

We categorize crimes into two areas:

"Part 1" and "Other Major". A breakdown of each for 2007 and 2008 is as follows:

CRIME	2007		2008	
	OFFENSES	CLEARANCES	OFFENSES	CLEARANCES
PART 1 CRIMES				
Criminal Homicide/Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0
Robbery	3	2	1	1
Assault	17	12	15	12
Burglary	22	2	19	6
Larceny	176	63	104	30
Auto Theft	5*	5	7**	5
PART 1 TOTALS	223	84	146	54
OTHER MAJOR CRIMES				
Arson	0	0	1	1
Forgery, Fraud, Counterfeiting	18	2	16	10
Morals	3	2	4	4
Vandalism	34	6	77	10
Narcotics	11	10	20	20
Carrying Concealed Weapon	1	1	1	1
OTHER CRIMES TOTALS	67	21	119	46
ALL MAJOR CRIMES TOTAL	290	105	265	100

*Two vehicles were stolen from Oakwood and recovered elsewhere. Two vehicles were stolen elsewhere and recovered in Oakwood. One vehicle was stolen from Oakwood and recovered in Oakwood.

**Four vehicles were stolen from Oakwood and recovered elsewhere. Two vehicles were stolen elsewhere and recovered in Oakwood. One vehicle was listed as an attempt stolen.



Public Safety

Overall crime was down in 2008. The department attributes this drop to some key arrests and to working in partnership with the citizens to be proactive in preventing crimes. Officers are encouraged to take opportunities to educate citizens on crime prevention tips. Simple things like removing valuables from vehicles, use of lights around your property, locking doors to your homes and cars, using bike locks, reporting street light outages and securing garage doors all help us make the community less criminal friendly. The number one crime deterrent we have is our citizens. When citizens are vigilant and report suspicious activity we are more successful in making apprehensions and preventing crimes.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Larcenies	126	123	142	176	104
Clearances*	19	42	35	63	30
Percent Cleared	15.1%	34.1%	24.7%	35.8%	28.8%

*Clearance means that the case is no longer under investigation because: 1) an arrest has been made; 2) the case is exceptionally cleared; or 3) the case was unfounded. The clearance rate in 2007 was higher due to the apprehension of one individual that was responsible for multiple crimes. The 2008 rate was right in line with the five year average for clearances.



As I see in the table above, a majority of our crimes are larcenies. How many of these are investigated and how many are solved?

We investigate every larceny (or theft) and, for that matter, every crime. Shown above are the results of our investigations.

Larcenies (e.g., thefts from vehicles, bicycle thefts) can be difficult to clear. Residents can prevent many of the larcenies in our community by doing the following:

- Locking garages.
- Locking vehicles and removing items of value.
- Obtaining bike licenses from the Safety Department and securing bicycles in garages.
- Reporting any suspicious activity to the Safety Department immediately.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Patrol visibility and traffic enforcement play a key role in reducing crime, vehicle accidents, OVI and traffic offenses that often directly or indirectly contribute to vehicle accidents. Studies have shown that active visible patrol is an effective deterrent to many of these problems. Our goal is simple; keep our community safe for residents, pedestrians and motorists and maintain a reputation that Oakwood is a community where traffic laws are enforced and those with criminal intentions should endeavor to avoid.

YEAR	OVI*	ACCIDENTS	INJURIES	DEATHS	CITATIONS
2004	24	207	28	0	2515
2005	15	216	24	0	2334
2006	10	221	28	0	2035
2007	19	203	34	0	2198
2008	15	193	16	0	1997

*Operating Vehicle Impaired (formerly DUI).

Over the past few years our level of traffic enforcement, as measured by the number of citations written, has dropped. Beginning in early 2009 the department implemented performance standards for patrol officers. These standards were carefully developed with the intention of increasing patrol activity and consistency amongst officers.



Last year, what were the causes of our vehicle accidents?

CAUSES	ACCIDENTS
Assured Clear Distance....	42
Failure to Yield	32
Improper Backing	22
Failure To Control	41
Inattention	11
Improper Turn	10
Disobey Traffic Device	7
OVI	2
Snow/Ice	4
Other	10
Hit & Run	12
Total	193



What do Public Safety Officers do while assigned to patrol duty?

In addition to traffic enforcement, officers also perform vacant house checks, after hours checks on businesses, conduct OVI patrols, respond to citizen calls, perform foot patrols in parks and business areas, conduct crime prevention activities, visit block parties, investigate suspicious individuals and vehicles, make contact with citizens, conduct follow-up investigations on previous complaints, respond to fire and EMS calls for service, direct traffic and monitor school areas.



Public Safety

FIRE



Oakwood citizens and businesses benefit greatly from the fast response time to fires - an important advantage of a consolidated Public Safety Department. What is our response time to fire scenes as compared to the ideal national standard of six minutes?

	2006	2007	2008	National Standard
Average engine response time to scene	4.22 mins.	4.28 mins.	4.29 mins.	6 minutes
Average cruiser response time to scene	2.21 mins.	2.14 mins.	2.32 mins.	



What has been Oakwood's fire loss record in recent years?

YEAR	ALARMS RECEIVED	HANDLED BY		FALSE ALARM	NO DAMAGE	DAMAGE SUSTAINED	TOTAL FIRE LOSS
		FIRE CREW	CREW OFFICERS				
2004	141	112	29	30	116	25	\$910,000
2005	125	102	23	24	118	7	\$118,475
2006	148	127	21	39	126	22	\$97,250
2007	125	107	18	33	112	13	\$100,308
2008	124	108	16	31	112	12	\$94,655

Fire loss for 2008 was the lowest in the past five years despite increases in property and content values. The department continues to maintain an exceptional response time that is well below the national average for the first responding apparatus. The first arriving public safety officer provides a situational scene size-up and requests additional resources when necessary. Small fires can at times be contained by the first arriving officer. Over the past several years the department has taken an aggressive approach to fire training and developed a standardized fire training guidelines manual. Practical application of basic skills and tactics combined with improved incident management training have significantly improved our overall fire response capabilities. Several fires that occurred in 2008 had the potential for significant dollar losses, but because the fires were reported early and crews were able to get in and make rapid stops fire loss was limited. Several examples were a basement fire that occurred on January 21, a room and contents fire that occurred on April 12, an electrical fire at a business that occurred on June 2, and a garage fire that occurred on November 17.

RESCUE



How many medic runs do we have in an average year? Of those runs, what happened to the patient?

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Medic Runs	494	510	543	511	517

ACTION TAKEN	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Taken to hospital by medic vehicle	394	417	442	441	441
Taken to hospital by police cruiser	5	1	3	3	3
Taken to hospital by mutual aid*	21	23	20	21	14
No removal**	68	65	72	43	48
Dead on arrival	6	4	6	3	11

* "Mutual Aid" means we were assisted by medics from another jurisdiction – usually this is Kettering.

** These are patients who did not need to be transported to the hospital. They either received treatment onsite, or refused treatment and transport.



Public Safety

With in-house staff assistance we were able to reduce the times we called mutual aid for medics in 2008. This kept response times low and provided more Oakwood residents with service from their own department. The number of Dead on Arrival calls has increased because we are now performing more field terminations. This is where paramedics perform advanced life support measures in consultation with hospital emergency room physicians and, when resuscitation attempts fail, declare the death on-scene. This is consistent with the guidelines established by the Miami Valley Emergency Medical Services Council.

We continue to provide our emergency medical technicians and paramedics with more training opportunities to meet the growing challenges and demands of providing exceptional advanced emergency care to our community. To monitor our service delivery we have a Quality Assurance Committee that is made up of paramedics, command staff and our physician medical advisors. The Q & A Committee looks at medic run reports to assure personnel follow established regional care and treatment protocols. We continually evaluate our training and equipment, and new technology available in the emergency care field.



How quickly do safety officers respond to calls for medical emergencies as compared to the ideal national standard of 4 to 6 minutes for the first unit and 13 minutes for a medic?

<u>MEDIC RESCUE TIMES</u>	<u>National Standard</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
First unit on scene	4-6 minutes	2.08 minutes	2.17 minutes	2.11 minutes
Medic response time	13 minutes	3.50 minutes	3.44 minutes	3.68 minutes
Average on-scene time (medic)		16.81 minutes	16.79 minutes	16.65 minutes
Average run time		54.79 minutes	58.09 minutes	57.00 minutes



TRAINING

How many hours of training are accomplished annually for the department to maintain current certifications for Public Safety Officers?

<u>TRAINING</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Police	1302	1075	1699	2513	1249
Fire	1064	946	1891	1713	1217
Rescue	532	1012	1756	1392	502
Communications/General	59	221	79	924	40
TOTALS	2957	3254	5425	6542	3008

Note: The reason that training hours in 2006 and 2007 were so much higher is that the department hired and trained several new officers in those two years. In 2008 we did not have any officers in basic or field training. We also allocated more time for fire training in 2006 and 2007 to implement some needed improvements in this area.

COMMENTS & FUTURE GOALS

1. Finalize the communications center upgrade and have all personnel trained on the use of the records management system (RMS) and computer aided dispatch system (CAD) by spring of 2009.
2. Continue to develop and update policy and procedure manuals and include this document online so all officers have access from any departmental computer. Develop a book of directives with a control sheet to clarify issues not covered in policies or where formal direction is needed to address specific issues.
3. Continue training programs with specific emphasis on officer defensive tactics and on liability reduction. Continue to develop and improve fire training guideline manuals.
4. Address hiring and training issues related to the communications center, due to anticipated retirements. Address support needs for the records position as it continues to have increasing responsibilities due to records automation, HIPAA, public records laws and internal and external reporting requirements.



Legal Affairs

The Law Department of the city of Oakwood is headed by our City Attorney, Dalma C. Grandjean, a shareholder at the law firm of Altick & Corwin Co., L.P.A. All of Oakwood's City Attorneys have been affiliated with the law firm of Altick & Corwin, which traces its origins back to 1853.

The office of the City Attorney was established by the Charter of the city of Oakwood, which was approved by the electorate on May 3, 1960, and last amended at an election on November 8, 1988. The Charter provides that the Oakwood City Attorney shall serve as the Director of the Department of Law. Chapter 127 of the Administrative Code of Oakwood sets forth the duties of the City Attorney and specifies that he or she shall be accountable to the City Manager and to the City Council.

The Department of Law advises the city council, the city manager, municipal boards and commissions, and the administrative officers and

departments on all relevant matters of law. In addition, the Law Department drafts and reviews legislation, contracts and other legal documents, and represents the city in civil cases and criminal prosecutions.

Also serving the city are two other shareholders with Altick & Corwin: Scott A. Liberman and Dennis J. Adkins.

Mr. Adkins prosecutes charged violations of municipal ordinances and state laws in Oakwood Municipal Court. Mr. Adkins also provides training to the Oakwood Public Safety Department on matters relevant to effective law enforcement and to the personnel of Oakwood Municipal Court on procedural and substantive legal matters.

Mr. Liberman serves as the City's Tax Collection Attorney. As such, he advises the Department of Finance in its tax collection efforts, and, when necessary, files suit against delinquent taxpayers.



Can the City Attorney advise a citizen with regard to matters involving the city of Oakwood or decisions made by the Council?

No. The city attorney's role is to advise city officials as they perform the duties of their offices. The city attorney does not represent any individuals of the public, nor does she represent city officials in personal matters. The city attorney is a resource for the members of Council and for city officials in the course of performance of their official duties. As such she renders legal opinions on matters of interest to the Council and/or to city officials.



What is the difference between a resolution and an ordinance?

According to the Charter of Oakwood, an ordinance is required for all actions which are of "a general or permanent nature" or for "granting a franchise, or levying a tax, or appropriating money, or contracting an indebtedness to be evidenced by the issuance of bonds or notes, or for the purchase, lease or transfer of public property." A resolution is an enactment by council that does not fall into any of these categories and that addresses a matter which does not apply to the general population and is of a temporary or short-term duration. An example of a resolution is an authorization for the city manager to enter into a contract for a specified project or purchase.



What is the significance of the Charter of the city of Oakwood?

Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution was adopted in 1912, and is known as the "home rule amendment." It was intended to free municipalities from control of the Ohio General Assembly and state officials, thereby allowing municipalities to exercise local self-government through adoption of a charter to provide for the structure and organization of municipal government.

The charter of a municipality is essentially the constitution of the city or village and sets forth the framework under which it will operate. It designates the distribution of power and duties of elected and appointed officials, boards and commissions, and city officials and citizens.

The city of Oakwood has chosen a council-manager form of government. In Oakwood, the council has the power to adopt ordinances and resolutions, make certain appointments and exercise related powers. The mayor presides at council meetings and is designated as the ceremonial head of the city, without the power to exercise administrative or executive authority. The mayor has one vote as do each of the four other council members.

Executive and administrative authority is vested in the city manager, who is appointed by a majority vote of the council. The city manager is responsible for faithfully executing and implementing the ordinances and resolutions enacted by the council. All other employees of the city report to the city manager, who oversees the performance of all of their job functions.



Are the procedural requirements for enactment of an ordinance and resolution the same?

No. An ordinance is required to be introduced at two separate meetings, unless an emergency is declared or three-fourths of the council members vote to dispense with the second reading. In contrast, a resolution may be introduced and voted on at a single meeting.

As a general rule, ordinances do not go into effect until thirty days after passage. However, certain ordinances go into effect immediately upon enactment:

- those declared to be an emergency;
- those providing for appropriations;
- those which are intended to raise revenue; and
- those intended to make public improvements which are petitioned for by the owners of a majority of the foot frontage of property benefited and specially assessed for the cost thereof.



Building & Zoning

In addition to having one of the top school systems in the State of Ohio and offering our citizens a myriad of unique city services, one of the distinguishing features that sets Oakwood apart from other suburban communities is our commitment to diligently enforce the Zoning and Property Maintenance Codes. With a majority of the city's housing stock more than 60 years old, it's important that existing structures be continually maintained and upgraded as necessary. Deputy City Manager Jay Weiskircher and Inspector Dave Bunting oversee the enforcement of the Zoning Code, and a 15-member Property Maintenance Board assists city staff and acts as an appellate body with respect to enforcement of the Property Maintenance Code.

Although Oakwood employs a full-time Zoning Inspector, we do not employ an inspector certified to conduct plumbing, electrical,

HVAC or structural inspections. Due to the limited number of building permits generated each year by Oakwood projects, it is not cost effective to have several individuals on staff performing each of these functions. Therefore, the city of Oakwood has an agreement in place with the city of Kettering Planning and Development Department to perform plan review, issue permits and conduct the necessary inspections on projects requiring specialized oversight. By contracting with the city of Kettering, Oakwood citizens not only benefit by receiving services from qualified inspectors, but the majority of costs associated with providing these specialized services are borne by users through permit fees and are not paid with tax dollars.

Here are some key questions and updates on building, zoning, and land use issues which we thought might be of interest to our citizens.



I understand that the Sugar Camp development has two components – commercial and residential. Can you describe them?

There is a total of 36 acres of land associated with the Sugar Camp development. On the W. Schantz side of the property is a 12 acre commercial tract that includes the four large, existing stone-faced buildings. One of those buildings is now home to the Beth Abraham Synagogue. The other three are part of the Sugar Camp Professional Offices. The residential component of the project is called Pointe Oakwood and is located on the remaining 24 acres. This is the portion of the development that is most visible from Far Hills Avenue.



Is the Beth Abraham Synagogue completed?

Yes, the project was finished last spring. The Beth Abraham Synagogue moved from its former site on Salem Avenue in a ceremony conducted in March, 2008 and celebrated a grand dedication at Sugar Camp on May 4, 2008.



Have any of the professional offices been occupied?

Yes. We have about 150 people working at Sugar Camp. Major renovation work on one of the rear stone-faced buildings began last fall and Ohio Eyecare Specialists, which has been in temporary offices at Sugar Camp for about 20 months, will soon move into that newly renovated space. Teradata, a data warehouse and analytical technology company, has leased an entire floor of the office building closest to W. Schantz Avenue and now has 100 employees working on the site. Additionally, The Wellness Connection will soon move into the rear building. The developers are continuing to market the remaining available office space.



I saw other site work being completed on the commercial portion of the property off of W. Schantz. What was that for?

In addition to building improvements, the developer constructed new parking lots on the east and west sides of the commercial property. A total of 177 new parking

spaces were added to the existing 185 spaces already on the site. About 180 old parking spaces on the far east side of the commercial property were removed and that land was added to the Pointe Oakwood residential area. In addition, a new public road was built from the main entrance opposite Kramer Road and continuing through the development to the western gate. This roadway is called Sugar Camp Circle. A base course of asphalt was applied to the new public road last fall, and the finish coat of asphalt will be applied to the road and parking lots this spring. A variety of trees and shrubs were planted throughout the commercial portion of the property this past fall consistent with a comprehensive landscape plan that was approved by Oakwood City Council more than a year ago. With the completion of the remaining asphalt work and additional landscaping, the majority of the exterior improvements on the commercial side of the property will be completed. In 2009, the two remaining old wood cabins on the east side of the site will be demolished, and a 22 space parking lot will be built in this general area. Also, a 900 s.f. Mikvah building (ceremonial bath) is under construction on the west side of the site.



How is the Pointe Oakwood residential portion proceeding?

Last spring, the developer began site clearing operations on the 24 acres of property along Far Hills Avenue which encompass the residential side of the development. The vegetation and tree removal was necessary in order to grade the site for development. A nearly eight acre stand of old growth mature trees was preserved and will become an integral part of the residential development. There will be extensive new landscaping throughout the site, including reforestation along the edges of the preserved tree stand. Earthwork and grading activities began last summer and have continued throughout the winter months. Some of the excavated material has been used to create the road beds that will become the north access road for the development and the access road to the city of Oakwood's Old River soccer fields. Last fall, the city realigned Far Hills Avenue from the north corporation limit to the Schantz Avenue intersection. As part of this project, a traffic signal was added at Springhouse Road and Far Hills Avenue.



Building & Zoning



What kind of housing is planned for Pointe Oakwood?

The new housing development will include condominiums, patio homes and townhomes with floor plans designed specifically for empty-nesters and retirees. Pointe Oakwood will offer a housing product not currently available in our city. The housing is being created to address citizen desires for homes that conveniently accommodate their leisure and travel lifestyles and will include a homeowner's association to address, among other things, maintenance of exterior areas. Oakwood has very few housing options of this type, far fewer than neighboring suburbs, yet many long-time residents (and some newer residents) are looking for it. They want to stay in Oakwood, but want available housing choices to match their needs. The housing units will be constructed over a period of years as market conditions dictate. In 2009 marketing efforts are expected to focus on single family patio homes along Far Hills Avenue and attached double units to be built on the north end of the property.



I heard some grumbling last year about the proposed landscape plan. How did that unfold?

A seven member citizen Landscape Advisory Committee was formed last summer and provided significant input into development of the Pointe Oakwood Landscape Plan. That plan was approved by the city in October, 2008.



When will the Old River access road be completed?

Construction will begin in a few weeks and will be completed by late summer or early fall. Construction of this access road leading from Far Hills Avenue to the soccer fields was one of the stipulations required by NCR when the soccer fields were sold to the city in 2006.



What work can we expect to see take place over the next few months?

Infrastructure improvements within the Pointe Oakwood site, including construction of a portion of the interior roadway system within the development, will commence in the spring. Access to the residential development will be from an entry opposite Springhouse Road. This will be the only access to the residential development and, as mentioned above, will also serve as the access road to the soccer fields.



What are the plans for the Routsong Funeral Home property at the corner of Oakwood Avenue and Irving Avenue?

Last October, the Oakwood Planning Commission tabled a request by Routsong to rezone the existing parking lots and two adjacent residential properties on Oakwood Avenue and Irving Avenue. The request was made as part of a plan that included razing the funeral home and the two adjoining residential structures and constructing a retail/office building on the site. That plan was strongly opposed by the city and by neighboring property owners. An amended rezoning application was presented to the Planning Commission at its January, 2009 meeting. The amended application asked for rezoning of only the three lots that have been used for several decades as funeral home parking. The existing R-4 zoning on the residential properties at 20 Oakwood Avenue and 222 Irving Avenue would remain as is. By a vote of 4-1, the Planning Commission recommended to City Council that the amended rezoning request be approved. City Council subsequently held a public hearing on February 2 and on March 2, ultimately approving the Planning Commission's recommendation to rezone the three parking lots from R-5 residential to Neighborhood Business District. The Planning Commission will hold additional public hearings over the upcoming month or two to review details of the site plan for the proposed retail/office building.



If I am considering a room addition, adding a garage, building a deck, or some other major improvement what do I need to do in order to secure a permit?

Major projects such as those described require submission of a certified plot plan and detailed scaled drawings that effectively describe the project. Once these items are submitted, the city reviews the plans for compliance with the Zoning Code. If the zoning setbacks are met and the plans conform in all other respects to city regulations, the plans are approved and forwarded to the city of Kettering for review and issuance of the necessary permit(s).

If the setbacks are not met, or if there are other issues that require special use approval, then the application is forwarded to either the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) or the Planning Commission, and a public hearing is held. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the proposed project is either approved, denied, or approved with conditions. If the project is approved or approved with condition(s) that the applicant has agreed to meet, the plans are forwarded to Kettering for review and issuance of the necessary permit(s).

Since the BZA and Planning Commission only meet once a month, it is important for property owners who are planning major improvement projects to submit their plans well in advance of when they hope to begin construction.



Building & Zoning



Along these same lines, what are the requirements for some of the most common home projects?

The following matrix identifies many of the most common improvement projects and whether those projects require a permit or zoning consideration. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive.

HOME PROJECTS	ZONING REVIEW	BZA OR PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING	PERMIT REQUIRED
Air Conditioning/Heat Pump Equipment	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Arbor or Trellis	No	No	No
Backflow Device	No	No	Yes
Deck	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Driveway Apron Replacement	No	No	Yes
Driveway Resurfacing	No	No	Yes
Driveway Replacement	No	No (If no expansion of existing driveway.)	Yes
Electrical Wiring (New, upgrade or renovation)	No	No	Yes
Entrance Pillars	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Fence	Yes	No	Yes
Flag Pole	No	No	No
Gazebo	Yes	No	Yes
Garage (New)	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Greenhouse	Yes	No	Yes
Hot Tub	Yes	No	Yes
Irrigation System	No	No	Yes
Landscaping (Plant material only)	No	No	No
New Construction (Room additions or new homes)	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Painting	No	No	No
Patio	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Play Structure (12 feet or less in height)	Yes	No	Yes
Porch Enclosure	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Signs (Permanent)	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Roof Shingles	No	No	Yes (Only if roof decking is being replaced.)
New Steps	Yes	No	Yes
Replacement Steps	No	No	Yes
Siding	No	No	Yes
			(If the work requires removal of electric meter.)
Sump Pump	No	No	Yes
Sidewalks – Public	No	No	Yes
Storage Shed	Yes	No	Yes
Swimming Pool	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Walkways (Private)	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Water Heater & Water Softener	No	No	Yes
Window Replacement	No	No	No



Does Oakwood issue any permits?

Yes. Assuming the proposed improvement complies with zoning regulations, the city issues permits for fences, patios, driveway resurfacing or replacement, arbors and trellises, sidewalks and driveway aprons, and storage sheds.



Besides the Pointe Oakwood Development along Far Hills Avenue, is there any other residential construction taking place in Oakwood?

Yes. A new home was recently completed at the corner of Wisteria Drive and Shafor Blvd. The lot became available after the previous home was destroyed by fire in December, 2004. A single family home on Park Road was demolished last summer in preparation for construction of a new home on that same lot. The new residence is slated for completion later this summer. Late last year, site clearing and foundation work got underway for a new home on Deep Hollow Road. This lot was created from the subdivision of an adjacent parcel of land. The owners hope to be in their new home by the end of the year.



Building & Zoning



Much of the investment within the community is driven by renovations or additions to existing structures. What are some of the most common improvement projects; how many permits are issued annually for these types of improvements; and what has been the total investment in new construction and renovation during the past five years?

Total investment during the past five years in new construction, renovation or other improvements, not all of which are listed below, is approximately \$46,824,391.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
# of Driveway, Patio, Sidewalk, etc. projects on Private Property Permits/Value	154/\$678,868	155/\$627,293	170/\$750,064	194/\$866,424	152/\$580,248
# of A/C Unit/Heat Pump Permits/Value	100/\$468,562	113/\$514,537	114/\$664,305	78/\$588,053	84/\$409,071
# of Fence/Retaining Wall Permits/Value	115/\$252,480	74/\$136,718	91/\$249,818	91/\$303,885	66/\$173,231
# of Accessory Structure Permits/Value (Garages, storage sheds, decks, etc.)	13/\$21,650	31/\$60,783	15/\$68,400	24/\$67,465	17/\$46,866
# of Residential Addition/Remodel Permits/Value	95/\$2,721,105	80/\$2,786,835	88/\$2,886,955	59/\$1,475,994	61/\$1,682,475
# of Residential – New Home Construction Permits/Value	1/\$1,920,000	2/\$850,000	1/\$950,000	1/\$501,000	3/\$2,763,146
# of Business Addition/Remodel Permits/Value	13/\$439,402	7/\$547,400	6/\$161,500	2/\$52,000	9/\$823,100
# of Business – New Business Construction Permits/Value	0/0	0/0	1/\$975,000	0/0	0/0
All Other Permits/Value (Includes Beth Abraham Synagogue in 2007 - \$3,500,000)	103/\$1,289,877	125/\$1,637,005	126/\$758,320	114/\$4,459,302	71/\$712,071
Total Number of Permits	594	587	612	563	463
Total Value	\$7,791,944	\$7,160,571	\$7,464,362	\$8,314,123	\$7,190,208



If I own rental property within the city, are there either state or local requirements which must be met? Also, are there any restrictions on the number of tenants permitted to live together in a single family dwelling unit?

The State of Ohio requires that owners of residential rental property register with the County Auditor. That information is then forwarded to the city of Oakwood.

In addition to the rental property registration, the city of Oakwood requires that owners provide a list of tenants residing at each rental property location. When there is a change of tenant, the property owner is responsible for scheduling the necessary inspection before the vacant units can be reoccupied.

Under the Oakwood Zoning Code, unless the occupants are related by blood, marriage or adoption (excluding first cousins or any more distant relationship) no more than two (2) unrelated persons may occupy a single family dwelling unit.

For more information on rental property requirements, contact the city offices at 297-2920.



For many years the city had regulations in place that no more than one sign could be displayed on a residential zoning lot. Are those regulations still in effect?

Like many jurisdictions throughout the country, Oakwood had strict regulations governing the placement of signs, including political signs, on residential lots. However, over the past decade, courts at both the state and federal levels have consistently ruled that local laws prohibiting the number of signs and the length of time a sign can be displayed violated free speech rights. As a result of these court rulings, City Council passed new regulations which it believes are defensible if challenged in court.

Under the revised regulations, real estate signs are limited to one double-sided sign no larger than six (6) square feet per side. Political signs are considered temporary signs and there can be no more than twelve (12) square feet (no sign being larger than six (6) square feet) of temporary signs placed on a zoning lot at any one time. Signs continue to be prohibited from being placed in the tree lawn between the sidewalk and curb, or on boulevards or other publicly-owned land. Any questions regarding sign regulations should be referred to the Zoning Department at 297-2920.

COMMENTS & FUTURE GOALS

In an on-going effort to maintain a vibrant commercial area along the Far Hills Avenue business corridor, last fall the city demolished a four-unit apartment building and constructed a 36 space parking lot. This lot is located in the first block of Orchard Drive behind the Oakwood Retail Building. Although this parking lot is primarily designed to serve customers of businesses in the 2400 and 2500 blocks of Far Hills Avenue, it can be used by anyone frequenting the Shops of Oakwood.

In 2009, the city will be renovating the municipal parking lot on Park Avenue behind the businesses along the north side of the street. This project will include an asphalt overlay on the existing lot and installing new lighting and landscaping. In addition to serving Park Avenue businesses and providing overflow parking for the Safety/City Building, this lot also provides parking for a host of community activities and functions that take place at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.



Leisure Services

The mission of the Department of Leisure Services is to enhance the quality of life of Oakwood residents by offering a variety of activities that encourage overall wellness, cultural enrichment and fellowship with neighbors. Its purpose also includes building upon the natural beauty of the city through the improvement, care

and maintenance of parks, public gardens, boulevards and rights-of-way.

The department is managed by Carol Collins who supervises a full-time staff of seven and provides oversight to dozens of program leaders, volunteers, seasonal and part-time employees.



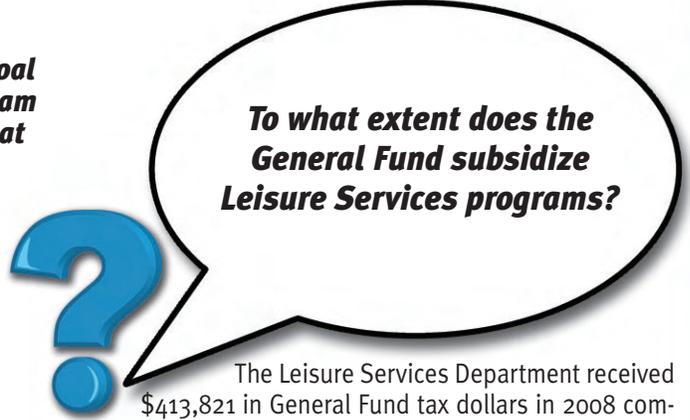
When the Department of Leisure Services was created in 1987, its goal was to make each recreation program as self-sustaining as possible. What are the top ten program areas for which fees are received?

REVENUES FOR THE TOP TEN PROGRAMS		
	2007	2008
Pool Membership	\$121,113	..\$134,797
OCC/Health Center Membership Dues ..	79,353	.....66,481
Sports Activities Fees	43,396	.....44,880
Pool Concessions	32,892	.....32,697
Dance Classes and Lessons	36,711	.....38,222
Old River Rentals	25,950	.....22,030
Smith Gardens	20,472	.....22,385
Exercise, Fitness Programs	21,340	.....17,504
Swim Lessons, Pool Passes	15,125	.....22,904
Tumbling, Gymnastics	7,762	.....6,864
Other Misc. Programs	69,714	.....74,337
TOTAL	473,828	..\$483,101



The Department of Leisure Services also has responsibility for maintenance of the city's natural areas and boulevards. What is the value of publicly owned trees and what are the annual expenses to maintain and replace them?

Total value of street/park trees	\$15,150,600
2008 expenses:	
Quadrant pruning	\$17,627
Removal and trimming	\$15,576
Stump removal	\$9,304
Johnny Appleseed Street Tree Planting Project (city portion)	\$7,735
Community Tree Planting	\$12,393
Storm Damage Costs (Ike)	\$23,328
Emerald Ash Borer Treatment	\$49,563
TOTAL:	\$135,526
Average street tree value	\$1,810/tree
Average park tree value	\$1,674/tree



To what extent does the General Fund subsidize Leisure Services programs?

The Leisure Services Department received \$413,821 in General Fund tax dollars in 2008 compared to \$474,000 in 2007. The money is used to help operate Leisure Services programs. Total expenses for the department in 2008 were \$940,478 compared to \$888,949 in 2007.



What are the major special community events and activities that are coordinated by the Department of Leisure Services?

- Safety Town
- Food Drive
- Centennial Mural
- Ice Cream Social
- Homecoming Hotdog Supper
- Senior Luncheons
- Johnny Appleseed Tree Planting Project
- Pumpkin Carving
- ScareCrow Row
- Family Fall Festival
- Candy Cane Hunt
- Letters from Santa
- Mother/Son and Father/Daughter Dances
- Breakfast with Santa
- Lighting up Oakwood
- Holiday of Lights
- Holiday Decorating Event
- Snowman Building at Old River
- Pictures with the Easter Bunny/Eggstravaganza
- 2 on 2 Basketball Tournament
- Friends of Smith Gardens Perennial Sale
- Spring Health Fair
- New Resident Pancake Breakfast
- That Day in May
- Kite Nite at Old River Complex
- Blanket Concerts at Smith Gardens
- Princess Garden Tea Party
- Teddy Bear Picnic
- Pre-School Story Hour at Smith Gardens
- Wii Bowling Tournament
- Orchardly Park Crafts
- Youth Talent Contest
- Halloween Haunts
- Centennial Cookbook Edition
- Girl Power



Leisure Services



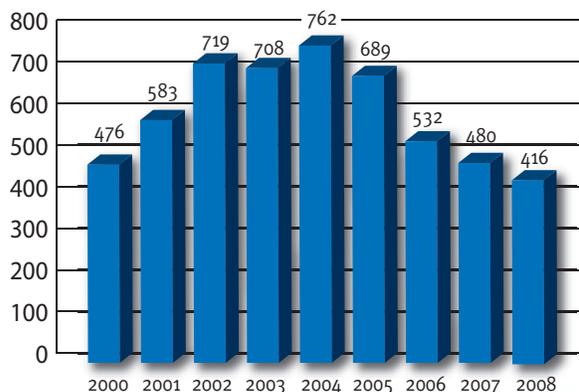
Memberships are an important financial ingredient of the Leisure Services operation. How many memberships did the Oakwood Community Center have during 2008 and how does this compare to the past six years?

Note: We have approximately 9,200 citizens living in Oakwood.

OCC Membership3,328
Pool Membership 416
Health Membership 830

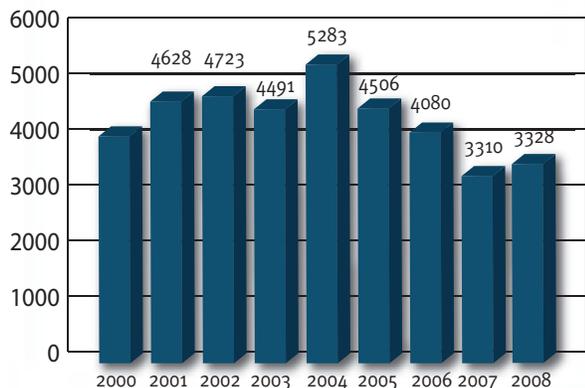
HEALTH CENTER MEMBERSHIPS

There were 8,516 visits to the Health Center in 2008.



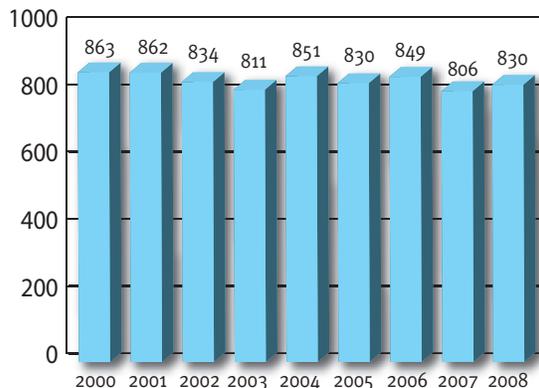
OCC MEMBERSHIPS

For family memberships, these numbers include all family members.



POOL MEMBERSHIPS

Note: There were an additional 1,122 daily passes purchased in 2008. Total visits to the pool in 2008 were approximately 34,382 as compared to 36,307 in 2007.





Leisure Services



What are the benefits of purchasing an OCC Membership?

By becoming a member, you are entitled to discounts on a Health Center Membership and the Gardner Pool Membership. It also entitles you to the lowest possible rate offered on all of the classes, sports programs and events the OCC sponsors. If you plan on taking classes, your membership will pay for itself in a short period of time. An OCC Membership is valid one year from date of purchase.



How many people swim at Gardner Pool every season and how many employees does it take to run the pool?

In 2008, there were 34,382 visits to the pool, which is a decrease from 36,307 in 2007. The cooler summer weather was the primary cause of the decrease in attendance. The figures do not reflect swim lesson or swim team participants. Staff includes a Pool Manager, Assistant Manager, Head Lifeguard, nine full-time guards, 4-5 substitute guards, a concession supervisor, 6 full-time concession workers and 4-5 substitutes. Additionally, the city employs three swim team coaches.



The city of Oakwood purchased the Old River Sports Complex in 2006. What kinds of activities were held during the year and how many participants?

Old River Sports Complex is open from early spring through late fall allowing for a variety of activities. The city of Oakwood utilizes the complex for recreational sports and special events. City sponsored spring recreational sports include kickball, coach pitch and tee-ball clinics. City sponsored fall recreational sports include youth soccer grades 1-6 and preschool outdoor soccer. Other special events include Snowman Building in February, Kite Nite in April, Youth Soccer Camp in July and Sports Camp Week in August. We look forward to continue these programs as well as adding others.

Oakwood City Schools use Old River Sports Complex from June to late October for boys and girls High School/Junior High School soccer practice and open fields.

In addition, Old River Sports Complex facility is rented to non-city or school organizations. These include: Oakwood United Soccer Club, 3 area soccer tournaments, University of Dayton Club Soccer, University of Dayton School of Law Memorial Softball Tournament, Dayton Coed Soccer, Greene County Football Club, Dayton Amateur 40+ Soccer, Olympic Development, Team Dayton, Dayton Soccer Academy, ISC, as well as others. More than 85,000 people attended and utilized Old River Sports Complex for sports and special events in 2008.



How many years has the city of Oakwood been a Tree City USA and what is the significance of this program?

The city of Oakwood has been a Tree City USA for 27 consecutive years and was one of the first communities in the Miami Valley to receive this national award by the National Arbor Day Foundation. Oakwood meets four major criteria each year to qualify for this award. They are as follows:

- A city department is designated and responsible for tree maintenance.
- The city's forestry program must have an annual budget of \$2 per capita.
- The city must have in place a tree ordinance.
- The city must sponsor an Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation.

In April, 2008 the city hosted the Southwest Ohio Tree City USA Awards Ceremony. Approximately 150 people attended representing 38 award winning communities throughout Southwest Ohio.



How many trees have been planted through the Johnny Appleseed Street Tree Planting program?

In 30 consecutive years, a total of 2,423 trees have been planted through this project at a total cost of \$274,855. The program is offered each year and includes a 50% discount to homeowners for trees that are planted in the rights-of-way. In 2008, the homeowners cost ranged from \$62.50 to \$72.50 for a 2" diameter tree.



Leisure Services



Are there rooms available to rent at the OCC for meetings or parties?

Yes, there are three rooms available to rent: The Great Room, which is perfect for a reunion, reception or large party; the Teen Center, which is just the right size for a birthday party or meeting; and the Large Classroom which can accommodate 10-15 people comfortably for a meeting or presentation. For information on room rentals, please contact Vickie Gearhart at 298-0775.



What new programs were offered in 2008?

The vitality of the Department of Leisure Services is very important to the community. During the year, the Oakwood Community Center staff added new programs to encourage and increase participation. Some of the added programs were the Centennial Mural, OCC Basketball Camp, OCC Soccer Camp, Chinese Culture Camp, Oakwood Birthday Celebration, Summer Adult Ballet, Halloween Haunts and the Winter Break Wii Bowling Tournament.



What type of fitness classes are available at the OCC?

We realize that everyone has busy lives, but exercise, health and fitness should be an important part of it! So together with our fitness instructors, we have developed a diverse selection of exercise classes to fit into your schedule and that will suit your individual fitness level and goals. Classes are available in the mornings and the evenings, and you can register for the whole session or buy class passes to attend on a drop-in basis. No more excuses!



I've heard a little about the Emerald Ash Borer insect. Should we be concerned about it?

Yes. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has destroyed millions of ash trees throughout the upper Midwest and it is vitally important that Oakwood does its part in recognizing the devastation that can be caused. Prior to the confirmed discovery of EAB in Huber Heights in July 2007, the city of Oakwood's Department of Leisure Services had already developed an EAB Management Plan. The city has a tree inventory in place and the ash trees in the city rights-of-way, parks and natural areas continue to be monitored and inspected by city staff and the city's tree contractor. In the summer of 2007, the city treated 102 ash trees in our parks and boulevard areas. In 2008, the city treated 793 trees in the city's parks, boulevards and city right-of-ways at a cost of \$49,563. The contractor used an injectible insecticide called Imicide. There were 5,507 vials used. To date, there has been no activity or evidence of the insect. The EAB naturally moves less than a half mile per year. Oakwood is concerned about the possibilities of the insect being transported into or through the community via car, truck or other means of transportation and reminds residents not to transport wood. Removal of the ash trees in Oakwood at this point in time is not being considered. The city remains in contact with the Ohio Department of Agriculture and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources receiving updates every 2 to 3 weeks as to the progress of the insect. The city continues to monitor the situation and if anything changes the Oakwood community will be notified if other action is considered.

COMMENTS & FUTURE GOALS

Customer Service — When renewing an OCC, Health Center or Gardner Pool membership, members often commented that the majority of the information filled out on the membership form remains the same year after year. The OCC front office staff worked to create a database of computer-generated forms of all current members. Now, when sending out renewal letters or when a member stops by the office to renew their membership, we simply print out the form, have the member look it over making any necessary changes and sign the bottom. We have had many positive comments from our members. The OCC Business Office continually strives to offer excellent customer service.

Family Fall Festival — The OCC sponsored its third annual Family Fall Festival in 2008. The festival runs in conjunction with the annual Scarecrow Building Contest in mid-October and is held in Shafor Park. Horse drawn carriage rides up and down Scarecrow Row was one of the many highlights of the day. Children partici-

pated in the Costume Parade, played old fashion games and rode on the small train around the park. There was food and entertainment for everyone to enjoy. It is estimated that over 2,200 people attended this event, which has become a favorite fall tradition!

Quadrant Tree Trimming Program — The City of Oakwood takes great pride in its beautiful tree-lined streets. Many of the trees in the tree lawn areas need to be trimmed each year to meet height requirements and codes. The City has contracted with American Forestry Service to provide this tree trimming service at no cost to residents. Letters of notification are sent to each household prior to trimming.

New Resident Breakfast — The City of Oakwood held a new resident family pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 15, 2008 to welcome residents who moved into the community during the past year. Over 100 people attended this wonderful community event.



Engineering & Public Works

The Public Works Department responsibilities include:

ENGINEERING: To provide quality professional engineering and surveying oversight to management, operation and improvement of Oakwood's infrastructure. This includes development of short-term and long-range capital improvement plans and implementing an annual capital improvement program. Services include project budgeting, design and preparation of construction plans and contract documents, and construction engineering and inspection.

PUBLIC WORKS: To provide the following public services:

Refuse Program - Includes weekly household waste collection and disposal, a comprehensive recycling program, a bulk pickup program and year around yard debris pickup. Also includes fall leaf pickup and a spring mulch delivery program.

Roadway Maintenance - Includes routine repair of asphalt and concrete streets and alleys, maintenance of sidewalks and other structures within the public rights-of-way, mowing and trimming of public areas, snow and ice removal, and maintenance of the city's traffic control systems including traffic signals and street signs.

Utilities - Includes operating and maintaining the city's water production and treatment facilities and the water distribution system, including fire hydrants. Also includes sanitary sewer line cleaning and repair, and storm sewer maintenance.

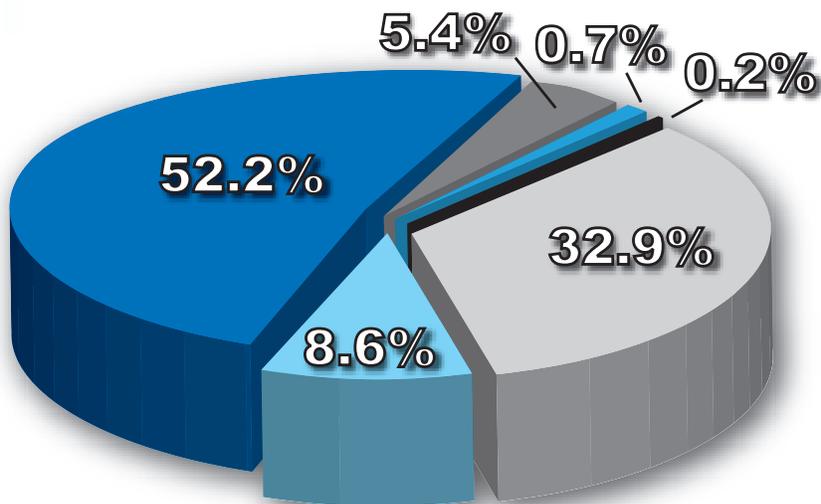
Kevin Weaver, P.E., P.S. is director of this department. The department includes an assistant director, two foremen, a water production superintendent, an engineering technician, department secretary, and 25 public works employees.



Refuse collection is one of the primary components of the Public Works Department's service delivery program. What was the mix of our solid waste stream in 2008?

Total of 10,450 tons of material handled

-  Cardboard
-  Co-mingled Recycling
-  Brush/Natural Material
-  Bulk Pickups
-  Refuse
-  Scrap Metal





Engineering & Public Works



Each week refuse, recycling and bulk pickup crews make over 3,200 residential collections, which translates to over 166,000 pickups for the year. With all these stops, how many times last year did service crews miss scheduled pickups?

	Misses for the year
Refuse and Co-Mingled Recycling	347 Less than 1% of total pick-ups

COMMENT: In 2008, we had 709 cases of inaccessible trash. These reflect individual reports from our service crews where they could not make pickups due to locked garages, cars in the driveway, locked driveway gates, loose dogs, etc.



Another important task of the Public Works Department is to make sure Oakwood streets are free of ice and snow. One way to measure this effort, and perhaps the severity of our winters, is to track the tons of salt and overtime used in any one year. What does the data show?

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Tons of Salt	1021	1561	299	1196	1585
Overtime Hrs	784	640	106	886	1107



Part of the city's snow removal operation is the practice of plowing the sidewalks if there is more than one inch of snow accumulation. How long has the city provided this service?

We have plowed sidewalks since 1966, after the completion of major roadway widening improvements to Far Hills Avenue. This plowing is a unique service and is a supplement to property owner work efforts. Residents are ultimately responsible for the safe condition of sidewalks on their frontage and must view the city plowing as a supplement only. The city does not apply deicing salt to sidewalks.



Where does the City get its water?

We have eight water production wells and three water treatment plants. We produced 100% of our own water in 2008. The city continues to maintain backup connections to the city of Dayton's system and to the Montgomery County water system. The city's total water use over the past five years looks like this.

Water use	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
In million gallons	407	424	384	533	417

The total gallons used each year is highly dependent on rainfall levels – this because of all the irrigation water we use. In 2008 our annual average daily water use was 1.14 million gallons. Our single highest daily water use was 2.33 million gallons - that use occurred on August 22.



What is the value of the city's "infrastructure"?

The infrastructure is valued at over \$100 million and consists of:

- Eight water production wells and three water treatment plants.
- A 1.5 million gallon water storage tower and a water distribution system including 44 miles of underground water main pipes and 342 fire hydrants.
- 39 miles of underground sanitary sewer pipes.
- 25 miles of underground storm sewer pipes.
- 51 miles of roadways and alleys, and 46 miles of sidewalks.
- 17 signalized traffic intersections.



What major infrastructure projects were undertaken in 2008 and what did they cost?

Project	Cost
Curb, Sidewalk and Apron Repair	\$160,000
Orchard Drive Parking Lot	\$180,000
Annual Pavement Marking Program	\$20,000
2008 Concrete Street Repair	\$160,000
Far Hills and Schantz Ave. Improvements	\$750,000



Engineering & Public Works



The city has a five-year capital improvement program, which essentially represents a list of projects tentatively planned for upcoming years. What are some street maintenance and repair projects and anticipated costs?

Project	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	5-Year Program
Annual Asphalt Pavement Program	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	2,000,000
Pavement Marking Program	30,000	20,000	20,000	30,000	20,000	120,000
Bi-Annual Concrete Street Repair		160,000		160,000		320,000
Sidewalk, Curb and Apron Program	160,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	660,000
Deep Hollow Bike Gutter Removal		60,000				60,000
Runnymede Guardrail Replacement	35,000					35,000
Kramer Road Reconstruction			250,000			250,000
Thornhill Road Curb Replacement				100,000		100,000
Park Ave. Streetscape			150,000			150,000
Oakwood Ave./Forrer Rd. Pavers				150,000		150,000
Park Road Reconstruction				250,000		250,000
Sweetwood Lane Reconstruction		200,000				200,000
Woods & Thruston Rdwy Reconstruction			300,000			300,000
Runnymede Roadway Reconstruction		700,000				700,000
Total	625,000	1,465,000	1,145,000	1,515,000	1,065,000	5,815,000



I've read about Phase 2 Stormwater requirements with which the city of Oakwood must comply. What are they and what can residents do to help?

In March of 2003, the City of Oakwood was required to submit a Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA). The SWMP is a plan for accomplishing specific goals to limit pollution that enters the region's streams and rivers. The Miami Conservancy District (MCD) is working as a partner with many of the jurisdictions in the Dayton area in conducting public awareness and education campaigns.

Some of the tasks that the city is completing to meet these requirements include:

- continuing street sweeping operations on a regular basis to keep debris out of the storm sewer;

- dry weather screening of manholes to help identify and eliminate illicit connections;
- mapping of the city's outfalls to rivers and streams;
- controlling construction run-off;
- modifying internal day to day practices to help limit pollution;
- submitting an annual report on the year's activities to the OEPA.

Citizens in the community can do some simple things to help prevent pollution to our rivers and streams. Please clean up after your pets because the bacteria from their waste is very dangerous to animals in the streams. Please do not put oil into the storm or sanitary sewers – 1 quart of oil can pollute 100,000 gallons of water. Please keep plant material (except for leaves during the 10 week collection period in the fall) out of the street as it will be washed into the storm sewers and eventually into the rivers and streams.

COMMENTS & FUTURE GOALS

Water Loss Study: In 2009 we will perform a water loss study. This will include a water system leak detection survey and detailed comparison of the city's water use versus water produced. It is important that we complete a water loss study from time to time to evaluate and verify the integrity of our water distribution system.

Park Avenue Parking Lot: In 2009 we will complete major improvements to the public parking lot on the north side of the Park Avenue

businesses. This project will include landscaping, lighting and pavement reconstruction.

Sugar Camp Development: Construction will take place on a new entrance from Far Hills Avenue to the Pointe Oakwood residential development, and to the Old River Athletic Fields. This new roadway will be located across from Springhouse Road and will be called Old River Trail.



Finance

Our Finance Department provides fiscal oversight to seven broad fund classifications, and manages income tax collection, payroll, water, sewer and refuse billing, accounts receivable and accounts payable.

The finance department is managed by Cindy Stafford and consists of seven employees. Six are full-time and one is part-time. The finance department prepares the annual budget and monitors all city expenditures.



How is our City budget organized?

Our budget document is organized into seven different fund classifications as follows:

General Fund; Special Revenue Funds; Capital Improvement Fund; Internal Service Funds; Trust & Agency Funds;

Enterprise Funds; Debt Service Fund.

The first five (General, Special Revenue, Capital Improvement, Internal Service and Trust & Agency) cover all of our city operations except the water and sewer utilities. We refer to these five as "Non-Enterprise Funds". The sixth (Enterprise) covers all operations relating to our water and sewer utilities. The seventh (Debt Service) accounts for any long-term bond debt. We are pleased to report that the city currently has no long-term bond debt.



How are the Water and Sewer Enterprise Funds different than the Non-Enterprise Funds?

Enterprise Funds are operated like a business, but intended to operate at a break-even point, rather than at a profit.

Customers are billed for services provided. Water and Sewer revenues cannot be used for any purpose other than to provide water and sewer services to the residents and businesses who use these utilities.

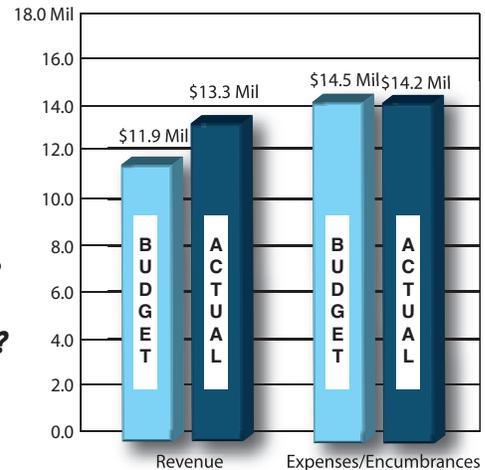
The Non-Enterprise group of funds is comprised of all other funds that provide public services to the community, and may be subsidized in whole or in part by General Fund revenues such as property, income and/or estate taxes. Some examples of services provided by Non-Enterprise Funds are Public Safety (police, fire and emergency medical services), refuse collection, street maintenance and repair, street lighting, and operation of the Oakwood Community Center.

From a budgetary standpoint, our Water, Sewer and Non-Enterprise operations are separate and unique organizations. All of the costs involved in producing, treating, storing, distributing and billing for our public water are paid for by our residents and businesses who use the water. This is accomplished through our quarterly water billing system. Likewise, all of the costs involved in operating and maintaining our sanitary sewer system and the costs we pay to Dayton and Montgomery County for the treatment of our wastewater are paid for by the residents and businesses who use our sanitary sewer system. This too is accomplished through our quarterly sewer billing system. None of our general tax dollars (e.g., income tax, property tax, estate tax) are used to pay for any costs related to the water and sewer utilities. Rather, 100% of the general tax dollars are used to pay for the other public services (e.g. police, fire, emergency medical services, street maintenance, parks and recreation, etc.) offered by the city.



How did our revenues and expenses in 2008 compare to what we had budgeted?

Revenue vs. Expenses
Non-Enterprise Funds Year-End 2008



Our Non-Enterprise Fund revenues were higher than we originally budgeted, primarily attributable to higher than expected income tax, estate tax and investment revenues received during 2008. Expenditures were somewhat less than we budgeted. Included above, during 2008 Council approved previously unanticipated supplemental expenditures totaling \$801,000 as detailed below:

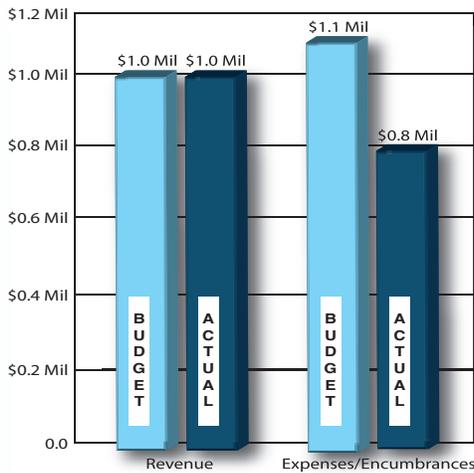
Improvements to Orchardly Park	\$290,000
ED/GE Grant from Montgomery County to provide support for Sugar Camp project	\$175,000
Funding for a summer camp program with the city of Kettering from the Martin Luther King Community Recognition Fund	\$2,500
Improvements to the parking lot on Orchard Drive	\$188,500
Additional expenditures as follows:	
Costs related to the wind storm on September 14, 2008	\$65,000
Increased cost of road salt	\$30,000
Safety Department defense tactics equipment	\$10,000
Increased cost of fuel	\$40,000
	\$801,000

We ended the year 2008 with Non-Enterprise fund balances totaling \$14,779,989. This is \$916,552 less than what we started the year with, but approximately \$1.2 million more than we had originally budgeted to end the year.



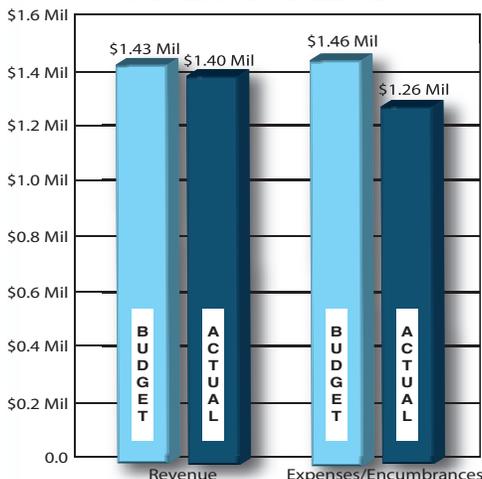
Finance

Revenue vs. Expenses Water Funds Year-End 2008



Our Water Fund revenues were somewhat higher than budgeted; these revenues can vary greatly depending in large part on the amount of irrigation water used throughout the city during the summer months, which of course is a function of the amount of rainfall during a given year. Our 2008 expenses were substantially less than budgeted primarily because some large capital costs were much lower than anticipated. Our Water Fund balances rose 117,332 in 2008.

Revenue vs. Expenses Sewer Funds Year-End 2008



The Sewer Funds received slightly less revenue than expected during 2008, but also expended less than budgeted for 2008. Accordingly, the Sewer Funds ended the year with balances totaling \$193,514, which is up \$85,527 from year-end 2007.

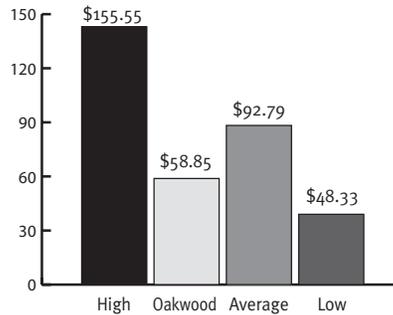
Note: The previous three sets of bar charts reflect actual cash received and spent for the fiscal (calendar) year. They do not include money transferred between funds, money spent that had been encumbered (or committed) from a prior year's budget, or money borrowed or spent to pay off short-term debt.



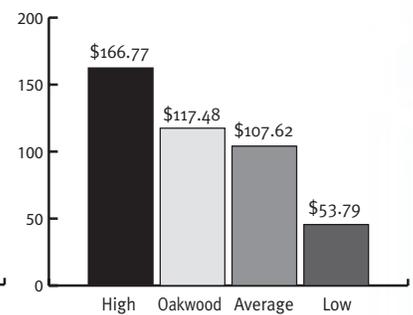
How do our water and sewer rates compare to those in other Miami Valley communities?

We operate our water utility very efficiently. Our water rates are the 5th lowest out of 67 jurisdictions. We have not raised water rates since 1994 and will not raise them in 2009.

Quarterly Water Cost Comparison



Quarterly Sewer Cost Comparison



Our sewer rates rank 38th lowest out of 63 jurisdictions. Unlike our water system which is 100% run by Oakwood, about 75% of our sewer operation (i.e., the wastewater treatment) is contracted. We use Montgomery County and the city of Dayton wastewater treatment plants and must pay County and Dayton rates.



What is the City's annual budget?

Shown are the 2009 budget figures.

NON-ENTERPRISE FUNDS FOR PUBLIC SERVICES

Fund Classification	Actual Balance 01/01/09	Estimated Revenue	Estimated Expenditures	Estimated Balance 12/31/09
Non-Enterprise Funds	14,779,989	12,160,121 ⁽¹⁾	13,917,597 ⁽²⁾	13,022,513

(1) This figure does not include \$3,150,000 of short-term borrowing in accordance with the debt management policy on our public facilities and land acquisition projects. (2) This figure does not include \$3,700,000 that we will pay on short-term debt.

WATER UTILITY

Fund Classification	Actual Balance 01/01/09	Estimated Revenue	Estimated Expenditures	Estimated Balance 12/31/09
Water Funds	1,214,602	977,500	1,180,158	1,011,944

SEWER UTILITY

Fund Classification	Actual Balance 01/01/09	Estimated Revenue	Estimated Expenditures	Estimated Balance 12/31/09
Sewer Funds	193,514	1,477,900	1,551,322	120,092

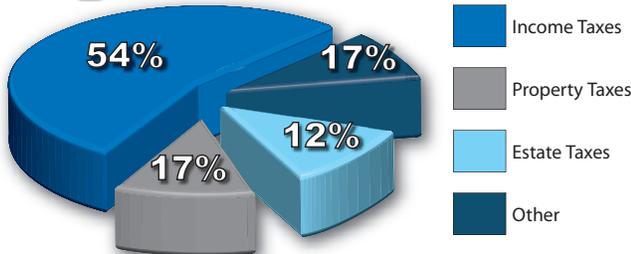


Finance



What percentage of the City's 2008 General Fund revenue was generated by Income Taxes, Property Taxes, and Estate Taxes?

General Fund Revenue



Note: "Other" includes items such as State Local Government Fund Monies, Other Miscellaneous Taxes (e.g., Liquor, Cigarettes), and Fines & Forfeitures.



How are my property taxes collected and who receives my residential property tax dollars?

The amount you pay in property taxes is a function of the assessed value of your property and the property tax millage for our city. The residential total effective millage rate used for 2008 property tax collections was 78.69, as compared to our current residential total effective millage rate of 77.70. The total effective millage can be broken into two components, as follows:

Inside millage (non-voted) – the tax rate imposed by governmental bodies without need for vote by its citizens. Inside millage is limited to 10 mills and is divided between Montgomery County, Oakwood City Schools and the city of Oakwood.

Outside millage (approved by voters) – the tax rate proposed by government entities (e.g., county, city, schools, Sinclair, Human Services) and approved by citizen vote.

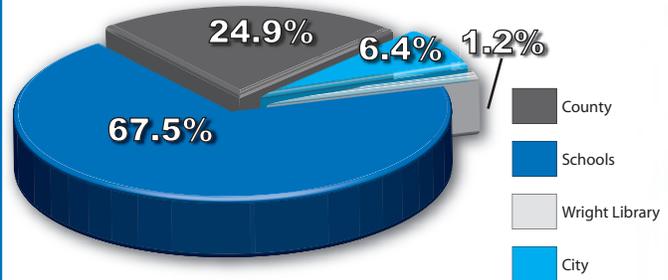
That total effective millage is shared by the four organizations shown below, and Oakwood property taxes are comprised of the following effective millage rates:

	Inside Mill.	Outside Mill.	Total Mill.
Oakwood City Schools	4.72	47.74	52.46
Montgomery County *	1.70	17.62	19.32
City of Oakwood	3.58	1.43	5.01
Wright Mem. Pub. Library	0.00	0.91	0.91
Total	10.00	67.70	77.70

*This includes money that goes to support Montgomery County governmental operations and also includes money supporting Sinclair Community College and the County Human Services Programs (e.g., ADAMHS Board for Montgomery County, Montgomery County Children Services, Montgomery County Combined Health District, Montgomery County Board of MR/DD).

Based on the above millages, your residential property tax dollars are distributed as follows:

Residential Property Tax Dollar Allocation



How are my property taxes calculated?

Here is the formula for an owner-occupied single-family property: Assessed Value of your property x 35% x millage ÷ 1,000 x 87.5% = Annual Property Tax

So, if your property is assessed at a value of \$200,000 your annual property tax would be calculated as follows:

$$\$200,000 \times 0.35 \times 77.70 \div 1,000 \times 0.875 = \$ 4,759$$

Based on the millages, your property tax dollars would be distributed as follows:	Entity	Amount
	Oakwood City Schools	\$ 3,213
	Montgomery County	\$ 1,183
	City of Oakwood	\$ 307
	Wright Library	\$ 56
	Total	\$ 4,759



I know that Montgomery County completed property reappraisals in 2008. What were the results?

Overall, our property values increased by 3.45%. Cumulatively, our residential property values increased by 3.3% and our commercial property values increased by 7.1%. Below is a comparison of Oakwood to all of Montgomery County.

	Residential	Commercial & Industrial	Total
Oakwood	3.3%	7.1%	3.45%
Entire County	-0.95%	4.01%	0.22%

Note: 95.03% of Oakwood's total land value is residential and 4.97% is commercial. For the entire Montgomery County, the numbers are 75.57% residential and 24.49% commercial/industrial.



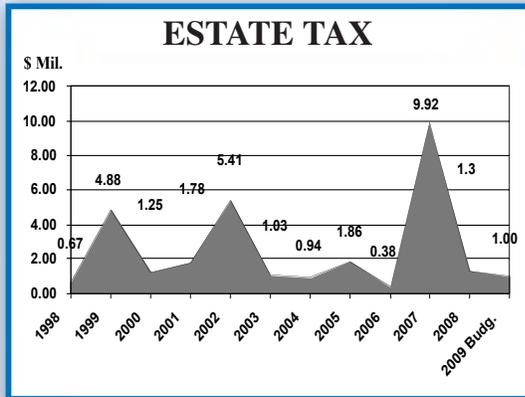
Who receives my income taxes and estate taxes?

The city of Oakwood receives 100% of those revenues. They are used to help pay for the Non-Enterprise public services.



Have the property, income and estate taxes that go to the City changed much in recent years?

Below is the history since 1998.



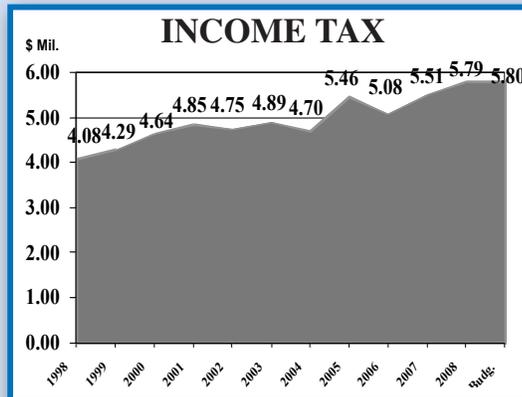
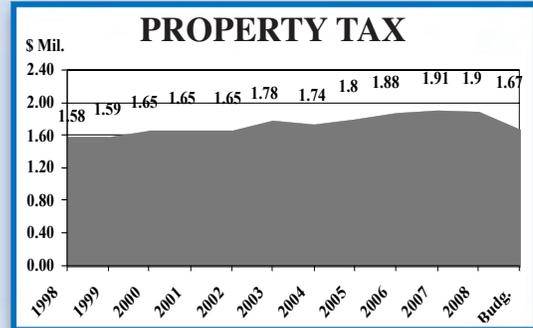
- As you can see from the graph above, annual estate tax revenue can vary dramatically from year to year. The spikes in 1999, 2002 and 2007 are very unusual, in fact unprecedented. Our estate tax receipts over the 11-year period from 1998 through 2008 average \$2.7 million per year; however, excluding the three "spike" years, the annual average is reduced to approximately \$1.2 million. Estate taxes are imposed by our state and federal governments - Oakwood has no local control over these taxes.

- Property reappraisals occur every six years. The 2008 reappraisal valuations become effective in 2009.

- Although the 2008 reappraisal will result in a modest revenue increase for the

City in 2009, in 2008, the city council voted unanimously to allow a 1978 property tax issue to expire, resulting in an overall decrease in revenue.

- The city has not asked property owners for an increase in voted property taxes for city services since November, 1991.



- Our income tax receipts have seen steady growth. We budgeted 2009 receipts to essentially match 2008, even given the state of our economy. We did this because of the new businesses at the Sugar Camp Professional Offices. There are now about 150 new jobs at Sugar Camp. We have not raised our income tax rate since 1984.

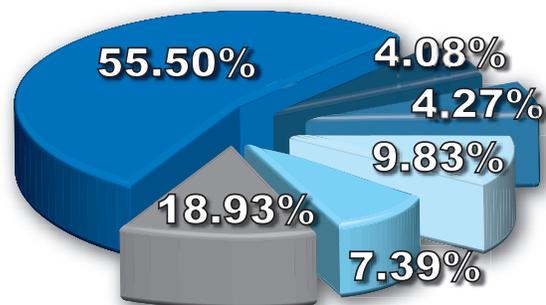


What are the different categories of expenditures incurred by the City, and what percentage of the total was expended in each category for 2008?

City of Oakwood 2007 Expenditures by Category

- Personal Services
- Contractual Services
- Materials & Supplies
- Capital Outlay
- Debt Service
- Miscellaneous

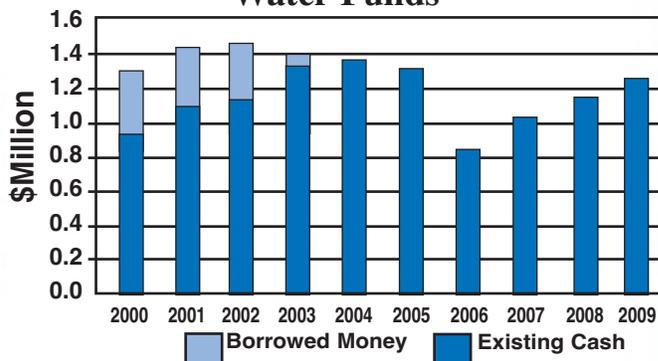
Expenditures	Actual 2008	% Of Total
Personnel Services	\$9,000,419	55.50%
Contractual Services	3,070,193	18.93%
Materials and Supplies	1,197,758	7.39%
Capital Expenses	1,594,029	9.83%
Debt Service	692,041	4.27%
Miscellaneous	662,894	4.08%
Total	\$16,217,334	100%



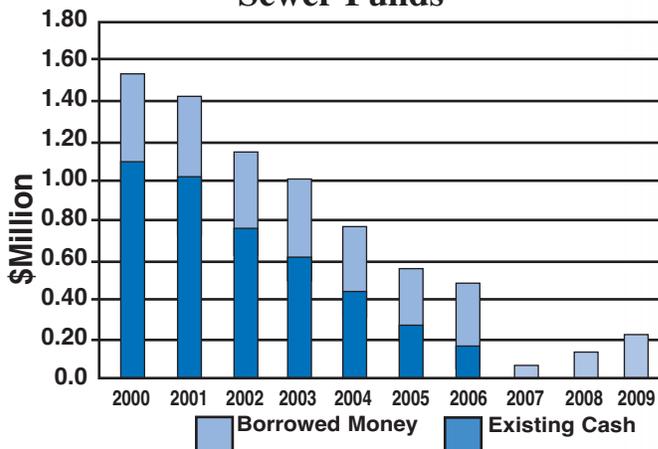


I know that the City has cash reserves that can be used during times when annual expenses exceed annual revenues. What is the 10-year history of our beginning year fund balances?

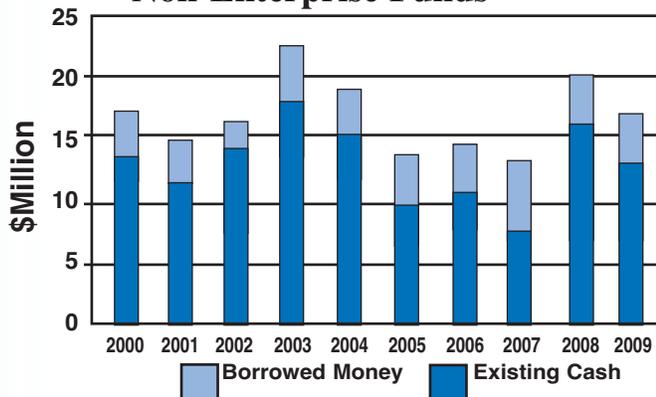
Beginning Year Cash Balances Water Funds



Beginning Year Cash Balances Sewer Funds



Beginning Year Cash Balances Non-Enterprise Funds



Does Oakwood invest the money it holds in the fund balances?

Yes, most of it. We keep all dollars not immediately required for cash flow safely invested. All investments are guided by an investment advisor and are overseen by the City Manager and Finance Director. Our investment protocol is governed by city ordinances which encompass a philosophy of protecting principal first and maximizing value next. As of December 31, 2008 the city of Oakwood had \$15,883,099 invested at an average rate of return of 3.688 %. In 2008, our total investment income was \$1,166,759.



A few years ago Oakwood began accepting credit cards as payment for various non-OCC related fees and services (e.g., water bills, sewer bills, refuse bills, taxes, etc.). How does this work?

Effective January, 2006, the city of Oakwood partnered with a firm by the name of Official Payments Corporation to provide this convenient service to its citizens. Credit card payments can be made by calling 1-800-272-9829 or by logging on to the website www.officialpayments.com and providing the requested information. A convenience fee will be added by Official Payments Corporation for providing this service. The user fee is required in lieu of the city using general tax dollars to provide this service. The Oakwood Community Center continues to accept traditional credit card payments as they have in the past; their system is not affiliated with Official Payments Corporation. As Community Center fees are structured to accommodate credit card transaction fees, no convenience fee is added to charges made for Oakwood Community Center membership dues, programs or classes.

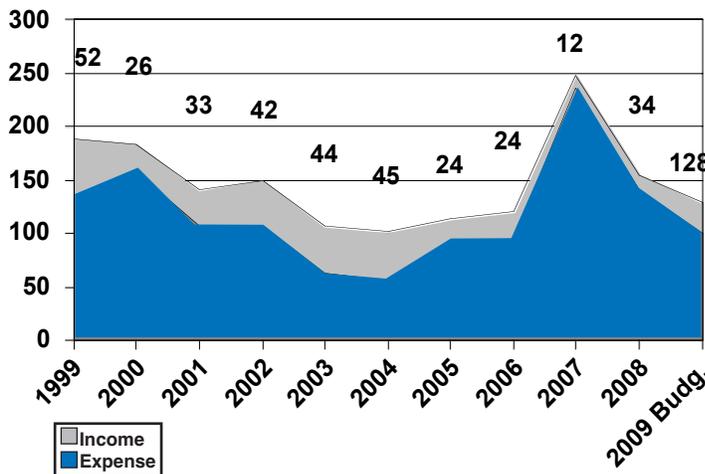


At the close of 2008, we held \$1.8 million in debt for public facilities projects (the Public Works Center and Administration/Safety Building) and \$1.9 million for the Old River athletic fields acquired in September, 2006. Annually, we pay down our public facilities debt by an amount of \$350,000, and our Old River acquisition debt by an amount of \$200,000. Although we have the cash reserves to pay off all of our debt obligations, we are earning higher interest on our investments than we are paying on our debt and have therefore chosen to pay the debt off slowly and strategically.



How much additional revenue have we earned by investing our cash balances as opposed to paying off the debt?

PUBLIC FACILITIES DEBT JUSTIFICATION



Top of Gray Represents Total Income
 Top of Blue Represents Expenses Related to Carrying Debt
 Difference is Our Net Annual Income

The blue shaded area in the chart represents the cost associated with carrying the public facilities and land acquisition debt. The top of the gray shaded area represents the total interest income we earned on our borrowed funds for each of the given years. Accordingly, the upper shaded area, and the respective number labels, represent the annual net profit earned on borrowed funds, after taking into consideration all related expenses.

Note: As the interest earnings on our investments vary with the market, so too does the amount we pay in interest when re-financing our one-year, short-term debt. Although our profit margin tends to fluctuate with the market, maintaining the short-term debt on our books, investing the monies, and paying the debt down methodically and strategically, continues to be a prudent investment decision.

As depicted in the chart, our costs of carrying debt grew in 2006 and 2007, when we took on debt for acquisition of the Old River athletic fields. The above chart reflects an estimated 2009 annual average interest earnings of 3.9%, as compared with an estimated average cost of carrying debt at 2.50%, plus associated legal fees and other costs.

COMMENTS & FUTURE GOALS

Sewer Fund Balance: The city of Oakwood does not have its own wastewater treatment facility to treat wastewater from our sanitary sewer system. We contract with the city of Dayton and Montgomery County for these services. These wastewater treatment costs continually increase. For many years we avoided sewer rate increases and used the sewer fund balances to cover extra costs. Over the past few years we raised rates twice. We now impose modest sewer rate increases every year or two to ensure that adequate funds are available to meet both current and long-term needs.

Financial Software and Departmental Procedures: During 2008, we began the process of requesting proposals from various vendors

to replace our existing financial software. The municipal financial suite used by Oakwood consists of numerous applications (Finance, Payroll, Utility Billing, Fixed Assets, Income Tax, and Central Billing and Receipting) involving a substantial investment of both money (acquisition cost) and time (training). Our budget includes \$110,000 for the upgrade of the City's financial applications. Our existing systems are about 11 years old and no longer meet our needs. The implementation of the new software will occur in phases during 2009. In conjunction with the implementation of the software, the finance department will begin a multi-year project to update and document all policies and procedures for each major job function.



Municipal Court

The Oakwood Municipal Court was established on January 1, 1934. Its authority is derived from section 1901.01 of the Ohio Revised Code and its territorial jurisdiction coincides with the corporate limits of Oakwood. The court's mission is to provide high quality and courteous services to the litigating public. It is charged with deciding cases fairly and will impose meaningful sentences in

criminal/traffic cases.

Judge Robert Deddens is serving his fourth six-year elected term as Municipal Judge. His responsibilities as Judge include appointing and supervising a full-time Clerk of Courts who in turn supervises the part-time Clerk. A part-time Bailiff is employed to serve subpoenas and eviction notices, and to immobilize vehicles.



What is the authority of our municipal court?

Like all municipal courts, our court has authority to conduct preliminary hearings in felony cases and has jurisdiction over traffic and non-traffic misdemeanors. The court also has limited jurisdiction in handling civil cases in which the amount of money in dispute does not exceed \$15,000 and in handling small claim cases in which the amount of money in dispute does not exceed \$3,000.



What are the court hours of operation?

The court is open to the public Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Non-jury, criminal and traffic proceedings convene at 8:30 a.m. on Thursdays of each week. Jury trials are scheduled every other month throughout the year as needed. In addition, the judge is on call for the purpose of conducting criminal arraignments when called upon to do so by public safety officers. Civil proceedings commence at 1:30 p.m. on Thursdays of each week.



Does Oakwood have a jail?

Yes, and it includes two cells. However, our jail is classified as a Temporary Holding Facility ("THF") meaning that we may only incarcerate a prisoner for a maximum period of six hours. Given the availability and close proximity of the County jail, this THF meets our needs.



When a person pays a traffic citation for a violation of a city ordinance, how much of the fine and court costs go to the state and how much goes to the City and County?

	Court Costs	Criminal Traffic/Fines	Seat Belt Fines	Court Cost Seat Belts
(Total Court Costs are currently \$74.00)				
State	32.5%	-0-%	100%	32.5%
County	0%	25%	0%	0%
City	67.5%	75%	0%	67.5%

Effective September 29, 2008 an additional \$10 was mandated by the State for all moving violations. (The \$10 is distributed at \$6.50 to the Drug Enforcement Fund and \$3.50 to the State Alcohol Treatment Fund).

The \$24 court cost going to the State is for the Innocent Victims of Crime Fund and the Public Defender Fund.

Fines for violation of state codes are paid to the County Treasurer while fines for violation of Oakwood ordinances are paid to the City.



What is the process used by the court in dealing with serious criminal and traffic cases?

When a person is arrested and charged with committing a serious crime or a serious traffic offense, the police officer notifies the court which immediately schedules an arraignment to set bail. Arraignments are held anytime day or night, on short notice. The judge meets with the officer and defendant promptly after the arrest. This reduces police time and the cost of housing and monitoring prisoners. It also ensures that the prisoner is not unnecessarily jailed pending trial. Prisoners who do not make bail are transported to the County jail.



Do we have jury trials in Oakwood?

Yes. When a defendant requests a jury trial, the Clerk of Court on behalf of the Court summons eighty residents from the city of Oakwood to report as prospective jurors. From those who report, eight jurors and one alternate are selected for the actual trial. No jury trial in the last 15 years has lasted more than one day. Jury trials are typically scheduled on Fridays. Jury trials are not permitted for minor misdemeanors (such as a speeding ticket) when jail is not a possible sentence.



What are some of the legal requirements that affect jury duty?

Ohio law dictates the circumstances under which a prospective juror may be excused. The circumstances include: 1) A physical or mental condition which must be supported by a physician's documentation; 2) If a person can demonstrate that jury service would cause "extreme undue physical or financial hardship;" and 3) The person is over 75 years of age and would like to be excused.

A person may be permanently excused if the judge determines that the underlying grounds for being excused are of a permanent nature.

The law also: 1) Provides for a minimum fine of \$100 for failure to appear for jury service; 2) Prohibits employers from taking disciplinary action that could lead to the discharge of any permanent employee as a result of being summoned to serve as a juror; and 3) Prohibits employers from requiring employees to use vacation or sick leave for time spent on jury duty.

COMMENTS & FUTURE GOALS

Video Arraignments: The Court and the City continue to evaluate whether and to what extent a video connection with the County Jail would benefit the City. The video connection would enable the Court to conduct video arraignments with prisoners in the County Jail, saving the expense of paying public safety officers to transport prisoners back and forth between the County Jail and the City for arraignments, and to guard the prisoners in the courtroom until he or she is arraigned. At present, cost/benefit analysis has not warranted the expense of video arraign-

ment equipment.

Court Interpreters: The court and court staff are facing more defendants who do not speak English – primarily persons who speak only Spanish. The law requires that the city provide qualified interpreters for accused who are indigent. The court expects this procedure to become more prevalent in the future. In some cases, the cost of the interpreter may be assessed as court costs and paid by the defendant.



It is City Council's vision of the City of Oakwood to continue its heritage as a premiere residential community:

- Where citizens know and respect one another.
- Where principal emphasis is placed on neighborhood, schools, responsive city services and parks.
- Where citizens contribute to and benefit from strong, responsible stewardship of community resources.
- Where a responsible citizenry helps establish and follows community standards that preserve the quality of individual and community property.
- Where residents feel comfortable and secure in their homes as they move about the community.
- Where education is a vital community tradition.
- Where viable business and professional enterprises are clearly compatible with residential living and not in conflict with the residential integrity of the community.
- Where citizen participation is valued and encouraged to give definition to the high expectations to the community and its residents.

Under the direct supervision and leadership of Dick Good, a group of citizen volunteers produced and published a fantastic book entitled "Oakwood, From Acorn to Oak Tree". The book provides a beautiful pictorial of our first 100 years and highlights all of the features and characteristics of Oakwood that make our city so spectacular. Book committee representatives included:

Richard T. Good, Editor-in-Chief

Anne Rasmussen, Managing Editor

Joanne K. McPortland, Writer

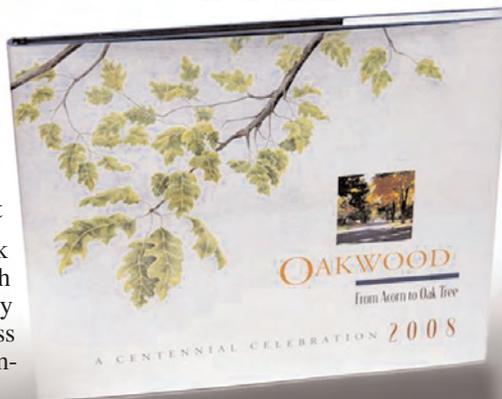
Nancy Chifala, Art Director/Graphic Designer

Lisa Dodds Reeder, Illustrator

Leon Chuck, Project Photographer

Perry Martin, Production Consultant

Printing of the book was funded through generous donations by the Oakwood business and professional com-



The first idea on how Oakwood could celebrate the centennial came from a vision of Mayor Judy Cook to create a historical documentary film. On August 9, 2004 Oakwood City Council established the Oakwood Historic Documentary Film Committee. The committee was chaired by Harrison Gowdy with assistance of co-chairs Harry Ebeling and Mackensie Wittmer. The documentary film committee also included George Houk, Pam Houk, Jeanne Palermo, Dick Robinson and technical advisors Roy Flynn, Carl Suchomel and Perry Martin. The film committee conducted extensive research and met on many occasions over a nearly four year period to produce a first-class video entitled "Oakwood: Our Home on the Hill". That video was premiered to over 600 Oakwood citizens from July 11 through 13, 2008 and 345 copies of the DVD have already been purchased by citizens. It is a truly remarkable historical piece greatly appreciated by our citizens. Copies are available at the city building for a \$10 dollar donation. All proceeds are forwarded to the Oakwood Historical Society.

